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SUBJECT: JAPAN/IAEA: STATEMENT ON IRAN TO FOCUS ON
ENCOURAGEMENT OVER PENALTIES

REF: STATE 92883

Per reftel instruction, ESToff on June 9, 2006 delivered to MOFA Non-Proliferation, Science and Nuclear Energy Division Deputy Director Kenji Enoshita the USG's expectations with regard to the Iran agenda item at the upcoming International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors' meeting. Enoshita currently is drafting Japan's BOG statement on Iran and said there are no areas of disagreement between the US position and Japan's. The Japanese statement will focus more on encouraging Iran to rejoin multilateral talks rather than on defining potential penalties should Iran decline to do so, according to Enoshita. The Japanese statement, while focusing on encouragement, will also make note of Iran's history of non-compliance.

SCHIEFFER